

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1.(*currently amended*) A dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve comprising:
2 a rod having a predetermined length;
3 a handle perpendicular and attachable to one end of said rod;
4 a pig-tail looped hook removal end at the opposite end of the rod from the
5 handle; and
6 a movable bite sleeve surrounding the rod.

1 2.(*currently amended*) The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim
2 1 wherein:
3 said rod is steel;
4 said pig-tail looped hook removal end is blunt; and
5 said rod has an angled portion above said pig-tail looped hook removal end.

1 3.(*currently amended*) The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim
2 1 wherein:
3 said movable bite sleeve surrounding said rod is plastic;
4 said movable bite sleeve is sized at least half said length of said rod;
5 said movable bite sleeve is cylindrical; and
6 said movable bite sleeve is movable on the rod.

1 4.(*original*) The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim 1 wherein:
2 said handle is welded to said rod.

1 5.(*original*) The dehooking device with slidable bite sleeve of claim 1 wherein:
2 said handle is cylindrical.

1 **6.(currently amended)** A method for using a dehooking device with slidable bite
2 sleeve consisting of a rod having a predetermined length; a handle perpendicular and
3 attachable to one end of said rod; a pig-tail looped hook removal end at second end
4 of the rod opposite the handle; and a movable bite sleeve surrounding the rod
5 comprising the steps of:

- 6 a. holding the movable bite sleeve close to the handle;
- 7 b. placing the device on a fishing line leader at a 90 degree angle with the
8 pig-tail looped hook removal end facing upwards;
- 9 c. pulling the handle towards a user while maintaining leader tension until
10 the pig-tail looped hook removal end engages the fishing line leader;
- 11 d. turning the handle 1/4 turn clockwise so the leader is in the center of
12 the pig-tail looped hook removal end;
- 13 e. releasing the movable bite sleeve so it falls to the bottom of the rod;
- 14 f. inserting the pig-tail looped hook removal end into a mouth of an
15 animal;
- 16 g. inserting the movable bite sleeve into the mouth of an animal;
- 17 h. sliding the rod further into the animal, following the leader;
- 18 i. giving a sharp jab downward on the handle when the pig-tail looped
19 hook end is resting on an ingested hook;
- 20 j. pulling the rod out of the animal until it stops at the movable bite
21 sleeve; and
- 22 k. removing the entire device from the animal when the animal opens its
23 mouth.

1 **7.(original)** The method claim of claim 6 wherein:
2 said animal is a fish.

1 **8.(original)** The method claim of claim 6 wherein:
2 said animal is a turtle.

1 **9.(original)** The method claim of claim **6** wherein:
2 said animal is a shark.